

Claims

1. A receiver terminal adapted for operating in a system in which plural service components of a service are datacast sequentially within a burst, the terminal being
5 arranged to detect which of the service components are required to be received, and to enable a receiver in the terminal to receive signals at one or more times in a burst period corresponding to the required service components, and to disable the receiver for substantially the remainder of the burst period.
- 10 2. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the terminal is arranged to enable and disable the receiver on the basis of received timing information identifying the timing of transmission of service components.
3. A terminal as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, in which the terminal is arranged
15 to detect which of the service components are required to be received on the basis of a comparison of receiver capability information and received service component data type information.
4. A terminal as claimed in claim 3, in which the terminal is arranged to source
20 the received service component data type information on the basis of a received service component identifier.
5. A terminal as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, in which the terminal is arranged
25 to detect which of the service components are required to be received on the basis of a comparison of receiver classification information and received service component classification information.
6. A terminal as claimed in claim 5, in which the terminal is arranged to source
30 the received service component classification information on the basis of a received service component identifier.
7. A terminal as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6, in which the receiver classification information is determined by a setting of the terminal.

8. A terminal as claimed in claim 7, in which the classification setting is automatically adjustable in dependence on one or more terminal parameters.
- 5 9. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the terminal is arranged to notify characteristics of the terminal to a remote station.
10. A terminal as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the terminal is arranged to notify a service being consumed to a or the remote station.
- 10 11. A method of operating a mobile terminal in a system in which plural components of a service are datacast sequentially within a burst, the method comprising:
- 15 detecting which of the service components are required to be received; and
allowing signals to be received and processed at one or more times in a burst period corresponding to the required components, and disallowing signal reception and processing for substantially the remainder of the time in the burst period.
12. A method as claimed in claim 11, comprising allowing and disallowing signal
20 reception and processing on the basis of received information identifying the timing of transmission of service components.
13. A method as claimed in claim 11 or claim 12, comprising comparing receiver capability information and received service component data type information, and
25 determining which of the service components are required to be received on the basis of the comparison.
14. A method as claimed in claim 13, comprising using a service component identifier to source the received service component data type information.
- 30 15. A method as claimed in claim 11 or claim 12, comprising comparing receiver classification information and received service component classification

information, and determining which of the service components are required to be received on the basis of the comparison.

16. A method as claimed in claim 15, comprising using a service component
5 identifier to source the received service component classification information.

17. A method as claimed in claim 15 or claim 16, in which the receiver
classification information is determined by a setting of the terminal.

10 18. A method as claimed in claim 17, comprising automatically adjusting the
classification setting in dependence on a sensing of a change in one or more
terminal parameters.

19. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 18, comprising notifying
15 characteristics of the terminal to a remote location.

20. A method as claimed in any of claims 11 to 19, comprising notifying a
service being consumed to a or the remote location.

20 21. Datacast apparatus comprising:
a sequencer arranged to organise service components relating to a service
sequentially in a burst, different service components within a burst including
content data of different data types;
a metadata handler arranged to organise, separately from the content data,
25 metadata dependent on the data type of each service component;
a timing data handler arranged to organise timing data from which a receiver
terminal can determine the times of datacast of the service components within a
burst; and
a datacaster arranged to datacast the service components, the metadata and
30 the timing data.

22. Apparatus as claimed in claim 20, in which the metadata identifies a class of
receiver.

23. Apparatus as claimed in claim 20, in which the metadata identifies the data type of the corresponding service component.
- 5 24. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 21 to 23, in which the metadata identifies the corresponding service component.
25. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 21 to 24, in which the metadata is datacast as part of the corresponding service component.
- 10 26. Apparatus as claimed in claim 25, in which the metadata is datacast as part of a header of the corresponding service component.
27. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 21 to 24, in which the metadata is datacast on a different bearer to the service components.
- 15 28. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 21 to 27, in which the sequencer is constructed to arrange the service components relating to a service in an order dependent on a perceived priority.
- 20 29. Apparatus as claimed in claim 28, in which service components having a higher priority are grouped together, and services having a lower priority are arranged before and/or after the service components having a higher priority.
- 25 30. Apparatus as claimed in claim 28 or claim 29, in which service components are arranged in an ascending or descending priority order.
- 30 31. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 28 to 30, arranged to use received data identifying the characteristics of one or more receivers associated with a service to determine the priority of the service components relating to that service.
32. A method of datacasting, comprising:

datacasting service components relating to a service sequentially within a burst the service components including content data of different data types;

datacasting, separately from the content data, metadata dependent on the data type of each service component; and

5 datacasting data from which a receiver terminal can determine the times of datacast of the service components within a burst.

33. A method as claimed in claim 32, in which the metadata identifies a class of receiver.

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34. A method as claimed in claim 32, in which the metadata identifies the data type of the corresponding service component.

35. A method as claimed in any of claims 32 to 34, in which the metadata
15 identifies the corresponding service component.

36. A method as claimed in any of claims 32 to 35, comprising datacasting the metadata as part of the corresponding service component.

20 37. A method as claimed in claim 36, comprising datacasting the metadata as part of a header of the corresponding service component.

38. A method as claimed in any of claims 32 to 35, comprising datacasting the metadata on a different bearer to the service components.

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39. A method as claimed in any of claims 32 to 38, comprising arranging the service components relating to a service in an order dependent on a perceived priority.

30 40. A method as claimed in claim 39, comprising grouping together service components having a higher priority, and arranging services having a lower priority before and/or after service components having a higher priority.

41. A method as claimed in claim 39 or claim 40, comprising ordering service components in an ascending or descending priority order.
42. A method as claimed in any of claims 39 to 41, comprising using received
5 data identifying the characteristics of one or more receivers associated with a service to determine the priority of the service components relating to that service.